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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/717,953	11/19/2003	Donald J. Palmer	200312665-1	9024
22879 7590 03/07/2007 HEWLETT PACKARD COMPANY P O BOX 272400, 3404 E. HARMONY ROAD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION FORT COLLINS, CO 80527-2400			EXAMINER NGUYEN, LAMSON D	
			ART UNIT 2861	PAPER NUMBER
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE			MAIL DATE	
3 MONTHS			03/07/2007	
			DELIVERY MODE PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	10/717,953		PALMER ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Lamson D. Nguyen		2861	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on RCE 02/06/07 and Amendment 12/11/06.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 10-27 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 and 7-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5 and 6 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Koitabashi et al. (6,474,778).

Koitabashi et al teach a print method comprising :

Claim 1:

- assigning a pattern to a medium, wherein the pattern defines coordinates of a portion of the medium (figure 4 teaches a pattern where to print black ink, color ink, and a processing liquid)
- applying a fixer to the portion of the medium in the pattern (figure 4 teaches applying a processing liquid represented by the large circles, the processing liquid in question helps fix the ink dots from bleeding to adjacent ink dots)
- applying ink to a different portion of the medium (figure 4 teaches applying color ink represented by the small circles n8)

Claim 2:

- designing a layout of a document (figure 4)
- preparing an image of the layout of the document for printing (figure 4)

- applying ink to the medium to form the image (figure 4)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koitabashi in view of Kato et al. (6,158,834).

Koitabashi teaches all claimed features of the invention except:

Claim 3:

- applying the fixer to the medium before applying the ink to medium

Claim 4:

- applying the ink to the medium before applying the fixer to the medium

It is well-known in the art of inkjet printers to apply a processing liquid prior to or after applying a printing ink, as taught by Kato et al. (column 2, lines 25-35).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the invention of Koitabashi to incorporate the teaching of applying a processing liquid prior to or after application of a printing ink for the purpose of reducing ink bleeding and to improving printing quality.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koitabashi in view of Takeuchi et al. (6,134,025).

Koitabashi teaches all claimed features of the invention except:

- (claim 7) 1-bit plane of data of image

It is well-known in the art to have 1-bit plane of image data as taught by Takeuchi et al (figure 4, 1-bit data 36).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Koitabashi to incorporate the teaching of 1-bit plane image data taught by Takeuchi et al for the purpose of producing black and white image.

Claims 8-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koitabashi in view of Byers et al. (6,378,976).

Koitabashi teaches all claimed features of the invention except:

Art Unit: 2861

- (claim 8) configuring software associated with a computer to prepare the image of the layout of the document for printing
- (claim 9) configuring firmware to prepare the image of the layout of the document for printing

It is well-known in the art to configure software associated with a computer to prepare the image of the layout of the document for printing and configure firmware to prepare the image of the layout of the document for printing as taught by Beyers (column 3, lines 32-33 teach a computer peripheral; figure 1, column 3, lines 32-35).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Koitabashi to incorporate the teaching of configuring software associated with a computer to prepare the image of the layout of the document for printing and configuring firmware to prepare the image of the layout of the document for printing for the purpose of outlining a printed image on a medium.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 5-6 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.


Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments dated 12.11.06 with respect to claims 1-9 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lamson D. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-2259. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew Luu can be reached on 571-272-7663. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


LAMSON NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER
03/11/07